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OAK RIDGE, TENN.

Biology Division
January 18, 1952

Dr. J. Lederberg
Dept. of Genetics
The University of Wisconsin
College of Agriculture
Madison 6, Wisconsin.

Dear Josh:

My apologies for not having answered you note of Dec. 3 sooner. The truth of the matter is that I hoped that perhaps I might get a couple of experiments done and make this test which you suggested, but things have gotten too rushed. We are leaving this afternoon for a trip to California (Caltech), and I have simply had too many things to get ready.

I can only say that it certainly would be feasible to test whether a lysis inhibited culture can be induced to lyse by mild UV doses. In fact, I would expect that clearing could be brought about. In this connection, I would also expect that standard non-inhibited cultures would probably be induced to lyse by UV, if treated at a time when they contain mature phage particles. Almost any poison will bring this about.

Therefore I suspect that the things in common between lysogenicity and lysis inhibition would perhaps only be an expression of the things that all phage systems, whether lysis-inhibited, lysogenic, or rapidly lysing, have in common.

I have recently organized my data on recombination in T4, and, like Hershey, have found that a linear picture does not fit. I am thinking in terms of a two-dimensional distribution of genetic markers in phage. I would like to recall the details of your "branched chromosome" or whatever it has become. Would it be possible to obtain a copy of your CSH manuscript(or anything later) which describes the data and the proposed hypothesis? I would need only the section containing that particular material. If this would be possible, could you send it to me at Caltech, (Kerckhoff), or here if it were sent later than Feb. 14.

I would appreciate seeing this information very much.

Best regards to you, Esther, the Morse family, and Ethelyn.

Sincerely

Gus

A. H. Doermann